

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 54

By Trail

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Robert Winston "Tee-Niny" Scales of Rutherford County.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of Robert Winston "Tee-Niny" Scales; and

WHEREAS, Robert Scales was an exemplary Tennessean and a consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Robert Winston Scales was born on June 22, 1926 in Rutherford County to H. Preston and Willie Scales; and

WHEREAS, he graduated from Holloway High School and attended Hampton Institute and Tennessee State University; and

WHEREAS, he grew up around the funeral business established by his father, becoming so skilled as a mortician that he passed the licensure examination with a remarkable grade of 97 when he was a mere sixteen years of age; and

WHEREAS, upon the untimely death of his father, Mr. Scales adeptly stepped into a leadership role in the family business when he was only twenty years old, becoming the second

generation owner of H. Preston Scales and Sons Funeral Home; he held membership in the Regional, State, and National Funeral Directors and Embalmers Associations; and

WHEREAS, Robert Scales served with acumen and alacrity as a member of the Murfreesboro City Council for twenty-four years, eight of which he spent as Vice-Mayor, in which position he earned the respect of his peers and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, Robert Winston Scales' commitment to public service and volunteerism is evident in light of the seemingly endless list of altruistic activities to which he devoted his time and energy: the American Red Cross, the Tennessee Municipal League's Safety Commission and the League's Human Resource Development Committee's Board of Directors, the City Parks and Recreation Commission, the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, the Rotary Club, the United Way's Board of Directors, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and many more; and

WHEREAS, Robert Scales was honored by the American Business Women's Association as an "Outstanding Citizen," by President Jimmy Carter as an "Outstanding Citizen of his Community," and as a "Murfreesboro Legend" by the Murfreesboro Chamber of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Scales was an active and devout member of the First Baptist Church, which he served faithfully for many years as treasurer, a member of the Senior Choir and Men's Chorus, and a deacon; and

WHEREAS, Robert Scales was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Scales enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife of fifty-one years, Mary Caruthers Scales, a former Murfreesboro City Councilwoman, and was the proud parent of Melvin Pearson and Sandra Renee Scales, who preceded him in death, Robert W. Scales, Jr., Madelyn Harris, Preston Scales, and Joan Simmons; and

WHEREAS, he was devoted to his grandchildren: Preston, Jr., Nikki, and Shamond Scales; Tonya Haynes; Toi, Paul III and Travis Douglass; Robert Edmond Harris; Demetris Lyles; Maureen, Terri, and Charles W. Simmons; Perdita Weakley; and Melvin Rucker; and

WHEREAS, he is also survived by three sisters-in-law, Georgia Scales, Corrine Scales, and Delores Caruthers, his brother-in-law Douglas Hancock, many cousins, including his devoted friend Melvin Williams, his loving nieces and nephews, Janet Scales, Gail Motley, Monica Ford, Judy Jones, Molly Thompson, Raynell Scales, Sophia Freeman, Lavetta Hancock, Dolores Hancock, Ruby Boulden, Shannon Scales, George Caruthers, Jr., Bobby Caruthers, Rufus Preston, Carl Thompson, Raymond Scales, Jr., Rory Scales, Monte Smith, Douglas Hancock, and Byron Brandon, and a host of loving friends; and

WHEREAS, Robert Winston Scales leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional citizen and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of Robert Winston "Tee-Niny" Scales, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Robert Winston "Tee-Niny" Scales.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.